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UP HOLLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

Chairman: Councillor G. J. Bray, J.P.
Vice-Chairman: Councillor G. C. Bamforth.

Councillors: G. W. Barnes.
G. M. Claxton.
T. Edwards.
R. Gaskell.
A. Glover.
Mrs. N. Heyes.
R. Latham.
P. Martland.
T. McCracken.
A. McDonald.
W. Rigby.
J. Roughley.
J. H. Watson.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor A. Glover (Chairman),
Councillor Mrs. N. Heyes (Vice-Chairman), and all members of the Council.

Medical Officer of Health: G. H. Potter, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector: J. Terence Iball.

UP HOLLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Up Holland Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the health of the district for the year ended 31st December, 1956, compiled in the abbreviated form indicated by the Ministry of Health.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area : 4,686 acres.
Population (Census 1931) : 5,538.
Estimated mid-1956 (Registrar General) : 6,500.
Total Number of houses (Census 1931) : 1,199.
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1956 according to Rate Book : 1,979.
Rateable Value : £40,180.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £155.

Up Holland is entirely an agricultural area. Other industries include brickmaking and mining.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births:	Legitimate	62	50	112
	Illegitimate.	3	Nil	3
		65	50	115
Still Births:	Legitimate	2	1	3
	Illegitimate.	Nil	Nil	Nil
		2	1	3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:	Legitimate	1	1	2
	Illegitimate.	1	Nil	1
		2	1	3
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:	Legitimate	Nil	1	1
	Illegitimate.	1	Nil	1
		1	1	2

	Male.	Female.	Total.
DEATHS :	33	26	59

Birth-rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population mid-1956 ... 17.7.
Death-rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population mid-1956 ... 9.1.

STATEMENT SHOWING COMPARATIVE STATISTICS IN RESPECT OF THE YEARS 1951 - 1956.

	Live Births.		Deaths. (all causes)		Stillbirths.		Maternal Mortality.		Infant Mortality.			
									Total.		Neo-natal.	
	No. Registered.	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. registered.	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. registered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No. of deaths registered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No. of Deaths registered.	Rate per 1,000 live Births.	No. of Deaths registered.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
Year 1956.	115	17.9	59	11.6	3	25	Nil	Nil	3	26	2	17
Year 1955.	96	15.0	81	14.8	6	59	1	9.80	2	21	2	21
" 1954.	96	15.0	59	10.8	3	30	Nil	Nil	3	31	1	10
" 1953.	101	15.7	58	9.8	6	56	Nil	Nil	2	20	2	10
" 1952.	95	15.0	65	11.2	1	10	Nil	Nil	3	32	3	32
" 1951.	101	16.0	71	12.2	1	10	Nil	Nil	4	40	3	30
Average 5 years.	-	15.34	-	11.76	-	33	-	1.96	-	28.8	-	20.6

Adjusted : Live Birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.01) = 17.9 per 1,000
: Death-rate (Comparability factor 1.28) = 11.6 per 1,000

In the next table are shown the chief causes of Death and number of Deaths from each cause in 1956, and comparative figures for the year 1955:-

Cause of Death.	No. of Deaths in 1955.	No. in 1956.
Tuberculosis, respiratory.	---	2
Tuberculosis, other.	---	---
Diphtheria.	---	---
Whooping Cough.	---	---
Meningococcal infections.	---	---
Acute poliomyelitis.	---	---
Measles.	---	---
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	1	---
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	2	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	---	---
Diabetes.	5	---
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	13
Coronary disease, angina.	7	5
Hypertension with heart disease.	4	2
Other heart disease.	23	12
Other circulatory disease.	5	2
Influenza.	---	2
Pneumonia.	1	3
Bronchitis.	3	4
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	---
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	---	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	---
Nephritis and nephrosis.	---	---
Hyperplasia of prostate.	2	---
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	1	---
Congenital malformations.	---	2
All other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	4
Motor vehicle accidents.	2	---
All other accidents.	1	---
Suicide.	2	1
	81	59

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Arrangements. Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Pathological Department of the Wigan Royal Infirmary and the Liverpool Corporation, and the arrangements are satisfactory. A report on every examination is made to the Public Health Department.

Ambulance Arrangements. Ambulance service in the district is provided by the Lancashire County Council. Vehicles are stationed at the newly opened Billinge Ambulance Station, and highly satisfactory service is being provided.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951. No action under Section 47 of these Acts were taken by the Authority during the year 1956.

3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. The water supply is obtained from Deep Wells in the District, situate at Roby Mill and Tontine. Temporary pumping equipment was obtained from the National Coal Board to maintain our water supply from the Roby Mill source owing to the non-delivery of our pumping equipment, until November, 1956, from the manufacturers.

4 samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination during the year, and the results proved to be satisfactory. Also 4 samples of water were sent for chemical analysis. During the emergency period, water was tested on site by the introduction of Cadmium Iodide of starch solution to ascertain the existence of a suitable residual.

Regular chlorination of the water supply is carried out. 1966 houses in the district have a piped supply of water from the main and 6 houses obtain their supply from wells.

Drainage and Sewerage. There are six small Sewage Disposal Works in the District. The main works (Dams Head) are in satisfactory condition. The smaller works have been functioning as satisfactorily as possible, bearing in mind the type of Works.

Sanitary Accommodation (at end of 1956).

Number of Privy Middens	70
Number of Closets attached to these middens ...	129
Number of pail closets	32
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens) ...	180
Number of moveable ashbins	1532
Number of fresh water closets	1998
Number of houses on water carriage system ...	1743

Under the General Conversion Scheme, the local authority pays a contribution of £12. towards the cost of a conversion, or bear half the cost if the total cost is less than this amount. 3 conversions were made in 1956.

Public Cleansing. Street scavenging and removal of house refuse are carried out by the Local Authority.

Privy middens and ashbins are emptied regularly and the Council's own refuse Collection Vehicle is engaged in the removal of refuse to controlled tips.

There is no destructor in the District.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Number of premises visited	88
Number of nuisances discovered	30
Number of nuisances abated	28
Number of Informal Notices served	10
Number of Statutory Notices served	6
Number of Legal Proceedings	3

Result of Legal Proceedings - Orders issued by the Court of Summary Jurisdiction against the owners to carry out the repairs under Statutory Notice; and costs.

Shops and Offices. 28 inspections were carried out during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, relating

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to ventilating and temperature of shops, and sanitary conveniences.

Camping Sites. There are none in the District.

Smoke Abatement. There are 9 factory and works chimneys in the district. No special action was taken with regard to smoke abatement. Installation of new stoking equipment at the Ravenhead Brickworks is still awaited.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There are none in the district.

Disinfestation of Verminous Premises. Three houses were found to be infested during the year, and were disinfested by fumigation with Sulphur and Insecticide spray.

Insecticides are distributed free where considered necessary by the local authority.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

1. No. of rodent operatives employed - (a) Full time - Nil
   - (b) Part time - 1.
2. Action relating to rodent control during year ended 31st December, 1956:

	Non-agricultural		
	Dwelling Houses.	All Other.	Agricultural.
(a) No. of properties in district	1919	64	60
(b) No. of properties inspected	320	60	60
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections)	320	60	120
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats - major ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
minor ...	80	Nil	Nil
Mice - Major ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
minor ...	30	Nil	Nil
(e) No. of infested properties treated.	110	Nil	Nil
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. retreatments)	220	Nil	Nil
(g) No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.	Nil	Nil	Nil

(h) Any other action - Inspected and treated two refuse tips, six times during the year, and inspected and treated five sewage works four times during the

3. Particulars of other infestations under the Act (Sect.28) - Nil.

Schools.

Total number of schools in the district	8
Number of schools with unsatisfactory yard surfaces	1
Number of schools with fresh water closets	8
Number of schools with dust-bins	8
Number of schools supplied with water from mains ..	8
Number of schools with drainage to public sewers ..	8

The facilities for handling meals at the schools are considered satisfactory.

4. HOUSING.

The first slum clearance programme was commenced during the year, and 12 houses are now being erected on the Highgate Estate to rehouse the tenants from the 12 houses to be demolished in Newfold. The Council are negotiating for land to enable the Highgate Estate to be extended, and also for the purchase of three plots of land in Ormskirk Road, for the erection of dwellings under the Slum Clearance programme.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-
Traditional permanent houses:-

	Houses	Flats
(i) By Local Authority	22	Nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities ...	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons ...	25	Nil

1. INSPECTION of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	45
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	102
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) No. found during year	1
(b) No. (or estimated no.) at end of year	312
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ...	6

2. CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):-

(1) No. of dwelling-houses demolished during year:	
(a) Unfit houses	Nil
(b) Other houses	Nil
(2) No. of persons displaced	Nil

3. HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS:-

	No. of Houses	No. of Persons Displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year:		
(a) Housing Act, 1936 -		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal proceedure (Sec. 11)	Nil	Nil
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	1	7
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	Nil	Nil
(b) Housing Act, 1949 -		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Section 3(1) and 3(2)	Nil	Nil
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 -		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11 (2)	2	4

	No. of houses
(2) Repairs during the year:	
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	17
(b) Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied -	
(i) By owners	3
(ii) By local authority in default of owners.	Nil
(c) Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) Houses made fit -	
(i) By owners	Nil
(ii) By local authority in default of owners.	Nil
(d) Housing Repair and Rents Act, 1954: Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5).	4
4. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954):-	
(1) No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil
(2) No. of separate dwellings contained in (1) above.	Nil
(3) No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil

5. HOUSING ACT, 1949 - Improvement Grants, etc:-	Private bodies or individuals		Local authority
Action during year:	No. of schemes.	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected.	
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority ...	5	5	Nil
(b) Approved by local authority	4	4	Nil
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .	1	1	Nil
(d) Finally approved by Ministry .	1	1	Nil
(e) Work completed.	5	5	Nil
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	Nil	Nil	Nil

(g) Any other action taken under the Act:- Nil.

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK SUPPLY. Routine inspections of farms and dairies have been carried out and a good standard of cleanliness maintained. 4 samples of milk for bacteriological and chemical analysis were taken during the year and all proved to be satisfactory.

2. MEAT. There is one private slaughterhouse in the district. Two pigs were killed and carcases inspected during the year. Both carcases were satisfactory.

3. FOOD POISONING. No case of Food Poisoning was reported during the year.

4. ICE CREAM. There is one Ice Cream manufacturer in the district. The premises have been inspected regularly and found to be satisfactory. Licences are issued for the sale of wrapped ice-cream on application being approved and premises found to be satisfactory on inspection. 4 samples of ice cream were taken during the year - all being Grade 1.

5. BYELAWS.

The No. of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year were:-

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	31
Green Grocers and Fruiters	2
Meat Shops	3
Bakers and/or Confectioners	4
Fried Fish Shops	2
Licenced Premises	22

The No. of food premises, by type, registered under S. 14 of the Food & Drugs Act or under Local Acts were:-

Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Preserved Meats	4

During the year, special examinations of food stocks or consignments were carried out and the following were condemned:-

Tinned ham	37 lbs. 11 ozs.
Tinned tongue	2½ lbs.

The method of disposal of all condemned food was by depositing on the Local Authority's Refuse tip.

6. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1955, cases of Infectious Disease requiring Hospital treatment were removed to Whelley Hospital and Astley Sanatorium.

Five cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

Only three cases of Measles were notified during the year, and 45 cases of Whooping Cough of a mild type.

Free immunisation against Diphtheria is provided for any pre-school or school child. During 1956, 101 pre-school and 19 school children were immunised. In addition 146 children were given a secondary or boosting injection. Also 99 pre-school children and 1 school child were immunised against Whooping Cough, with Whooping Cough Vaccine only or a combined (Diphtheria-Pertussis or Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis) type of prophylactic.

TABLE OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1956.

Diseases	Total cases all ages.	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over	Total Deaths	Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital.
Scarlet Fever.	5	–	–	1	–	–	3	1	–	–	–	–	–
Diptheria.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Measles.	3	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Whooping Cough.	45	6	2	6	3	5	17	6	–	–	–	–	–
Dysentery.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

		0-	5-	15-	45-	65 and over			
Acute Pneumonia.	2	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–
Erysipelas.	2	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–
Food Poisoning.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Puerperal pyrexia.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

DISINFECTION. Disinfection of premises is carried out by the local authority. Dwelling houses are dealt with on removal of cases to Hospital or release from isolation of infectious cases.

During 1956 - 5 houses were disinfected.
Houses are disinfected by the method of Formaldehyde fumigators.

TUBERCULOSIS. This service is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board, and the Up Holland cases attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan.

Three new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1956. All three cases were Non-respiratory Tuberculosis. Two deaths from Tuberculosis were registered during the year.

The following Table shows the new cases of Tuberculosis in age groups:-

Age Periods.	New Cases.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	–	–	–	–
1-	–	–	–	–
2-	–	–	–	–
5-	–	–	–	–
10-	–	–	1	–
15-	–	–	–	–
20-	–	–	–	–
25-	–	–	–	–
35-	–	–	–	1
45-	–	–	–	1

Tuberculosis Table (Cont'd.).

Age Periods.	New Cases.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
55-	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-
75 & upwards-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	1	2
	-		3	

I am Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. POTTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

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